

Amendments to the Claims

Claims Listing

1. (Currently Amended) A floating structure comprising:
at least one deck having an upper surface;
one or more pontoons ~~having an interior chamber~~, said one or more pontoons ~~attached to and supporting said deck, said chamber being of sufficient volume to cause said deck and said one or more pontoons to float; and~~
a basin containing a first ballast material ~~basin water and having an open top, at least a portion of~~ said one or more pontoons being positionable within the basin and being supportable floating in by said first ballast material ~~basin water surrounding said one or more pontoons, and said basin being configured having a chamber of sufficient size to cause the basin to float in a body of water, and said basin further having a wall sufficiently high to isolate the basin~~ first ballast material ~~water~~ from the body of water, said pontoons having at least one degree of horizontal ~~freedom of motion relative to said basin wall.~~
2. (Currently Amended) The floating structure of claim 1, wherein said upper surface of said deck comprises a generally horizontal ~~and planar~~ upper surface.
3. (Currently Amended) The floating structure of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of basins, ~~each of said basins having therein~~ at least one of said pontoons being at least partially disposed within one of the plurality of basins.
4. (Currently Amended) The floating structure of claim 1, wherein at least one of said plurality of basins is moored to a fixed structure.
5. (Currently Amended) The floating structure of claim 4, wherein said fixed structure is a pier.

6. (Currently Amended) A floating structure comprising:
- at least one deck having an upper surface;
 - one or more flotation means attached to and supporting said deck;
 - means for reducing the effects on said flotation means of motions ~~currents~~ in a body of water, said flotation means having horizontal freedom of movement relative to said means for reducing the effects; and
 - mooring means for restricting translational motion of said structure.
7. (Currently Amended) The floating structure of claim 6, wherein said upper surface of said deck is generally horizontal ~~and planar~~.
8. (Currently Amended) The floating structure of claim 6, wherein said means for reducing the effects on said flotation means of motions ~~currents~~ in a body of water comprises a plurality of basins.
9. (Currently Amended) The floating structure of claim 6, wherein said floating structure is moored to a fixed structure.
10. (Currently Amended) The floating structure of claim 9, wherein said fixed structure is a pier.
11. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a floating surface, comprising:
- providing one or more floating basins having ~~basin water~~ fluid contained therein;
 - providing one or more pontoons floating in said basins, each of said pontoons having at least some horizontal freedom of motion relative to said basins; and
 - providing a deck over ~~on~~ said pontoons ~~a deck~~ for supporting said floating surface.
12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein said floating surface comprises a runway for aircraft.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein at least one of said basins is moored to a fixed structure.
14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said fixed structure is a pier.
15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein said floating surface comprises a roadway.
16. (New) The floating structure of claim 1, wherein the first ballast material comprises water.
17. (New) The floating structure of claim 1, wherein the one or more pontoons have an interior chamber that is at least partially filled with a second ballast material.
18. (New) The floating structure of claim 17, wherein the second ballast material has a composition different from that of the first ballast material.
19. (New) The floating structure of claim 17, wherein the basin has an interior chamber that is at least partially filled with a third ballast material, the interior chamber being separated from the first ballast material.
20. (New) The floating structure of claim 19, wherein the one or more pontoons and the basin are configured to allow the quantity of ballast material in the respective interior chambers to be adjusted.